

Message Text

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ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 SSO-00 PASS-00 /014 W

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FM AMCONSUL MUNICH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6327

UNCLAS MUNICH 2291

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, GW: (STOFFERS, JAMES)

SUBJECT: DEATH OF JAMES STOFFERS, BORN APRIL 9, 1955

REF: MUNICH 2276 AND PREVIOUS

TO: MR.P. STOFFERS

8007 LIBERTY AVENUE

PARMA, OHIO 44129

AT THE REQUEST OF DR. KLAUS SCHMID WE ARE COMMUNICATING WITH YOU TO CLARIFY DETAILS CONCERNING THE DEATH OF YOUR SON, JAMES. THE INFORMATION WE HAD INITIALLY RECEIVED AND PASSED ON TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR TRANSMISSION TO YOU WAS NOT COMPLETELY ACCURATE. IT HAD BEEN RECEIVED BY CONSULATE GENERAL DUTY OFFICER ON SUNDAY AFTER HAVING BEEN RELAYED THROUGH SEVERAL OFFICES. DUTY OFFICER'S ATTEMPTS ON SUNDAY TO CONFIRM INFORMATION WITH TRAUNSTEIN POLICE WERE UNSUCCESSFUL SO HE PASSED INFORMATION HE HAD TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

TRAUNSTEIN POLICE INFORMED US TODAY THAT JAMES AND HIS FRIEND, GARY RUCH, HAD BEEN HIKING UP THE 4500 FEET HIGH MOUNTAIN "FUDERHEUBERG", NEAR THE TOWN OF PIEDING OF THE LANDKREIS (COUNTY) OF BERCHTESGADEN. THEY WERE APPARENTLY FOLLOWING A SKI CLEARING AND THEN CONTINUED ON A SMALL PATH. APPARENTLY, YOUR SON FELL BACKWARD DOWN THE MOUNTAIN. MR. RUCH WALKED DOWN THE MOUNTAIN AND ALERTED THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE SQUAD. OUR ESTIMATE OF \$1,650 FOR PREPARATION OF REMAINS AND SHIPMENT TO CLEVELAND WAS ONLY A ROUGH APPROXIMATION; ACTUAL COST, ACCORDING TO DR. SCHMID, IS ABOUT \$2,000. PLEASE ACCEPT OUR VERY SINCERE REGRETS REGARDING INACCURATE AND UNCLASSIFIED

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INEXACT INFORMATION YOU RECEIVED. IF WE CAN BE OF ASSISTANCE IN ANY

WAY, DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US.
AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL
MUNICH, GERMANY
GILMORE

NOTE BY OC/T: MUNICH 2291 PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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